have been exempted from the purview of compulsory pre-shipment inspection of items notified under the Export (Quality Control & Inspection) Act. This facility has been made available with the objective of facilatating exports and procedural simplification.

[*English*]

White Marking of Speed Breakers on National Highways in Maharashtra

1356. PROF AHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are a large number of speed breakers on the National Highways in Maharashtra without white marking on them which result in accidents during night; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER FOR SURFACE TRANSPROT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). Though as per policy no speed breaker is permitted on the National Highways, these are some time being constructed unauthorisedly at some locations. Instructions have been issued to the State Government a number of times advising them to remove the same and instead adopt alternative engineering measures recommended by the Ministry.

Neutralization of All India Consumer Rice Index

1357. SHRI C.P. MUDALAGIRIYAPPA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to give hundred per cent neutralization of the All India Consumer Price Index to the all the employees;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) to (c). There is no proposal under consideration of the Government to give 100 per cent neutralization of the increase in the All India Consumer Price Index Numbers for Industrial Workers (AICPI) to all employees. As per the recommendations of the Fourth Pay Commission, 100 per cent neutralization of the increase in 12-monthly average of the AICPI (Base, 1960=100) over the average index of 608 is admissible to employees drawing as basic pay upto Rs. 3,500, 75 per cent neutralization to those drawing pay above Rs. 3,500 and upto Rs. 6,000 and 65 per cent to those drawing pay above Rs. 6,000 per month.

Development of Cochin Port

1358. SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPROT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any proposals from the Cochin Port Trust for the development of Cochin Port;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHIR. JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Schemes for the development of Cochin Port have been received for inclusion in the 8th Plan which is yet to be finalised.